PATENT/Docket No. PC10901A

Appl. No. 09/779,413

Filing Date: February 8, 2001 Amdt. dated July 14, 2004

Reply to Office action of February 17, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of an endothelin-mediated disorder in a companion animal which comprises administering an effective amount, wherein the free blood plasma concentration after twenty four hours remains above the concentration providing efficacy for said endothelin-mediated disorder, of a compound of formula I or a veterinarily acceptable salt thereof to the companion animal, compound of formula 1 having the formula:

$$R^3$$
 R^4
 R^4

wherein R¹ and R² each represent H, or together represent a second carbon-carbon bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached;

when R¹ and R² each represent H, then R³ and R⁴ also represent H;

when R¹ and R² together represent a second carbon-carbon bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached, then R³ and R⁴ independently represent H or C₁-C₆ alkyl;

Ar represents:

phenyl or naphthyl, which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from C_1 - C_6 alkyl (which may itself be substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, CO_2H , NH_2 , $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl) and $N((C_{1-6}$ alkyl)₂), halo, C_{1-6} alkoxy, CO_2H , C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl, NO_2 , CN, NH_2 , $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)₂ OH and C_{1-3} alkylenedioxy, or

- a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl ring containing up to 4 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, which group is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, halo, C_{1-6} alkoxy, CO_2H , C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl, NO_2 , CN, NH_2 , $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), and $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)₂.
- 2. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the companion animal is a cat, a dog or a horse.
- 3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the endothelin mediated disorder is hypertension, congestive heart failure or chronic renal failure.

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- 4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein R¹ and R² each represent H.
- 5. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein R³ and R⁴ each represent H.
- 6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein Ar represents phenyl or naphthyl, naphthyl, or thienyl, which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from $C_{1.6}$ alkyl, halo, CF3, $C_{1.6}$ alkoxy, CO_2H and $C_{1.6}$ alkoxycarbonyl.
- 7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein Ar is phenyl.
- 8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the endothelin mediated disorder is congestive heart failure.
- 9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the endothelin mediated disorder is chronic renal failure.
- 10. (Currently amended) A formulation containing a compound of formula I or a veterinarily acceptable salt thereof:

wherein R¹ and R² each represent H, or together represent a second carbon-carbon bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached;

when R¹ and R² each represent H, then R³ and R⁴ also represent H;

when R^1 and R^2 together represent a second carbon-carbon bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached, then R^3 and R^4 independently represent H or C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

Ar represents:

phenyl or naphthyl, which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from C_1 - C_6 alkyl (which may itself be substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, CO_2H , NH_2 , $NH(C_{1.6}$ alkyl) and $N((C_{1.6}$ alkyl)₂), halo, $C_{1.6}$ alkoxy, CO_2H , $C_{1.6}$ alkoxycarbonyl, NO_2 , CN, NH_2 , $NH(C_{1.6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1.6}$ alkyl)₂ OH and $C_{1.3}$ alkylenedioxy, or

a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl ring containing up to 4 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, which group is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, halo, C_{1-6} alkoxy, CO_2H , C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl, NO_2 , CN, NH_2 , $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), and $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)₂;

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the formulation characterized in that it is suitableadapted for administration to a companion animal, wherein the free blood plasma concentration of compound of formula 1 after twenty four hours remains above the concentration providing efficacy for said endothelin-mediated disorder.

(Currently amended) A formulation according to claim 10, which is suitable adapted for oral administration and has a taste attractive to the companion animal.

12-14. (Canceled)